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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **\*PRESS RELEASE\***

On Friday, July 7, 2006, the Department of Correction (DOC) became aware of an allegation by an inmate regarding the manner in which a specific nurse employed by Correctional Medical Services (CMS), DOC's medical provider, was administering insulin to inmates.

The allegation is that a nurse at the Howard R. Young Correctional Institution used a diabetic needle and syringe instead of an individualized lancet to obtain a blood specimen for a diabetic sugar test. After using the needle to check the inmate's blood sugar level, the nurse allegedly used the same needle to draw insulin from a multiple dose vial of insulin, thereby potentially contaminating the vial. The nurse then allegedly used the vial to provide insulin to other inmates. If this incident occurred as described, it would be a clear violation of existing policies and procedures. This nurse is no longer employed by CMS.

DOC and CMS have launched an investigation into the allegations. Although the investigation is not yet complete, the severity of the allegations has prompted remedial action. As a result, DOC is taking all necessary measures to assure that each of the potentially affected inmates is tested for blood-borne pathogens. Specifically, any inmate who has received insulin injections by the former nurse alleged to have engaged in the practice since her April 10, 2006 hire date will be offered testing for blood-borne pathogens. DOC will work with the Division of Public Health and CMS to provide the testing and appropriate follow-up. The inmates will be retested in 90 days.

DOC is committed to providing appropriate healthcare to the individuals in the Department's custody and to responding promptly to problems brought to its attention.

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